

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 MEXICO 04981 070037Z

63

ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIE-00 INRE-00 NSCE-00 SSO-00 SAM-01 SAJ-01 OMB-01

/065 W

----- 085221

O R 070015Z JUN 75 ZFF-4

FM AMEMBASSY MEXICO

TO SECSTATE WSASHDC IMMEDIATE 8167

INFO AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMEMBASSY MADRID

C O N F I D E N T I A L MEXICO 4981

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MX, PFOR, SP

SUBJ: CONVERSATION WITH RAFAEL CALVO SERRER

1. RAFAEL CALVO SERRER, WHOM I'VE KNOWN OFF AND ON FOR SEVENTEEN YEARS BUT NOT SEEN FOR A LEAST FIVE OR SIX, VISITED ME JUNE 6 AND TOLD ME THE FOLLOWING:

CALVO, A SOCIALIST, VIDAL BENEYTO, AND PCE SECRETARY GENERAL SANTIAGO CARRILLO MET JUNE 5 WITH PRESIDENT ECHEVERRIA FOR THREE HOURS. ECHEVERRIA GAVE HIS FULL SUPPORT TO A GROUP REPRESENTED BY THIS TRIO - LA JUNTA DEMOCRATA DE ESPANA - AND AUTHORIZED THEM TO ANNOUNCE THAT SUPPORT IN A PRESS CONFERENCE CALVO HAS SCHEDULED FOR 8 PM (EST) JUNE 6. CALVO IS ALSO AUTHORIZED TO SAY THE GOM IS PREPARED TO RECOGNIZE ANY POST-FRANCO SPANISH GOVERNMENT THAT APPEARS TO BE MOVING TOWARDS DEMOCRACY.

2. CALVO DESCRIBED THE JUNTA DEMOCRATA AS A FRONT OF ALL DEMOCRATIC FORCES OPPOSED TO FRANCO. OF 23 EXECUTIVE COUNCIL MEMBERS, ONLY 2 WERE COMMUNISTS. HE ARGUED THAT THE COMMUNIST PARTY OF SPAIN WAS RIGHTFULLY INCLUDED IN
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 MEXICO 04981 070037Z

THIS GROUP, THAT THEY "ACCEPTED ABSOLUTELY" THE PRINCIPLE

OF DEMOCRATIC RULE, AND THAT THEY WOULD ALSO HONOR THE COMMITMENTS OF THE PRESENT GOVERNMENT, INCLUDING MILITARY BASES COMMITMENTS TO THE US. THE PCE WAS THE STRONGEST ORGANIZED POLITICAL PARTY IN SPAIN; ITS INFLUENCE COULD BE SEEN IN THE "WORKERS' COMMISSION" WHICH CONTROLLED THE SPANISH WORKING CLASS. FURTHERMORE, UNLIKE THE PORTUGUESE COMMUNISTS, THEY WERE STRONGLY ANTI-SOVIET: IN 1968 CARRILLO HAD VIROGOUSLY PROTESTED THE SOVIET INVASION OF CZECHOSLOVAKIA.

3. CALVO SAID HE INTENDED TO RETURN TO MADRID IMMEDIATELY UPON FRANCO'S DEATH, WHICH HE BELIEVED IMMINENT ("A MATTER OF WEEKS"). HE WOULD REOPEN HIS NEWSPAPER, MADRID, (CLOSED IN 1971) AND ARGUE FOR A PLEBISCITE TO DETERMINE WHETHER SPAIN WOULD HAVE A REPUBLIC OR CONSTITUTIONAL MONARCHY. THE LATTER HE FELT VIABLE ONLY IF PRINCE JUAN CARLOS RESIGNED IN FAVOR OF HIS FATHER, DON JUAN. IN HIS OPINION JUAN CARLOS WAS UNACCEPTABLE FOR BEING "FRANCO'S KING". DON JUAN WAS UNSPOILED AND SHOULD HEAD PROVISIONAL GOVERNMENT TO SUPERVISE THE PLEBISCITE.

4. COMMENT: CALVO WILL BE IN WASHINGTON ON JUNE 9, AT THE COSMOS CLUB. I PROVIDED CALVO NAME OF IBERIAN AFFAIRS DIRECTOR LUKENS AND FSO EDWARD ROWELL.
JOVA

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: JUNTA, POLITICAL SITUATION, DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS, PRESS CONFERENCES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 07 JUN 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: SmithRJ
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975MEXICO04981
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750199-0116
From: MEXICO
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750670/aaaacmcj.tel
Line Count: 86
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION ARA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: SmithRJ
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 10 JUN 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <10 JUN 2003 by BoyleJA>; APPROVED <28 OCT 2003 by SmithRJ>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: CONVERSATION WITH RAFAEL CALVO SERRER
TAGS: PFOR, MX, SP, (ECHEVERRIA ALVAREZ, LUIS), (BENEYTO, VIDAL)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006